

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, PFOR, EG, US

SUBJECT: USG OFFICIAL CLAIMS AGAINST EGYPT

REFS: (A) CAIRO 12057 AND PREVIOUS, (B) CAIRO 9014

1. REQUESTED CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS AND CLAIMS REPORT
HAVE BEEN POUCHED TODAY.

2. REGARDING USG OFFICIAL CLAIMS, AGREED MINUTE CONCERN-
ING OUTSTANDING CLAIMS ANNEXED TO DRAFT AGREEMENT ON
PRIVATE CLAIMS OF US NATIONALS (DOCUMENT 5) CONTAINS
COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF USG OFFICIAL CLAIMS. INsofar AS
DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THIS IS COMPLETE AND UP-TO-DATE LIST,
SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE INCLUSION CASE OF SS SUZANNE PENDING
BEFORE THE SUEZ COURT (REF B).

3. REGARDING DOCUMENTATION OF USG OFFICIAL CLAIMS, INsofar
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AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, SITUATION APPEARS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) REGARDING DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD FOR PEACE, CLAIMS OF CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE AND CARE, COMPLETE SET OF CLAIMS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS HAS BEEN PROVIDED AND IS

AVAILABLE IN EMBASSY;

(B) REGARDING SO-CALLED GHALLI PROPERTY IN GIZA, EMBASSY HAS DOCUMENTATION;

(C) REGARDING USIS LIBRARY AND AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL BUILDING IN ALEXANDRIA, AND AMERICAN CONSULATE BUILDING IN PORT SAID, IT WAS UNDERSTOOD IN 1975 DURING L/C-HUANG VISITS TO CAIRO THAT EMBASSY AND FBO WERE ACQUIRING AND AWAITING RELEVANT INFORMATION CONCERNING DETAILS OF VARIOUS ITEMS OF DAMAGE AND COSTS OF REPAIR AND REHABILITATION;

(D) REGARDING CLAIM OF USG FOR DETENTION OF SS AFRICAN GLEN, DEPARTMENT STILL HAS THIS CASE UNDER CONSIDERATION BECAUSE OF COMPLEX POLITICAL, LEGAL AND FACTUAL ISSUES INVOLVED. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, THIS OFFICIAL USG CLAIM IS RELATED TO PRIVATE CLAIM OF FARRELL LINES REGARDING SAME VESSEL, AND APPROACH TO APPROPRIATE EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES FOR INFORMATION SURROUNDING CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DETENTION HAS BEEN DELAYED BECAUSE OF USG WISH TO HAVE AGREEMENT ON PRIVATE CLAIMS OF US NATIONALS FIRST ENTER INTO FORCE;

(E) REGARDING SS SUZANNE CASE, IN VIEW OF DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED TO DATE, DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING ITS POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN THE FINAL LIST OF USG OFFICIAL CLAIMS WHICH MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE PRESENTED TO THE GARE. EMBASSY HAS FILE ON LATEST 1975 EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH ATTORNEY MALACHE.

4. REGARDING COMMENCEMENT OF NEGOTIATIONS ON USG OFFICIAL CLAIMS AGAINST EGYPT, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT BECAUSE OF POLITICAL SENSITIVITY INVOLVED IN THE SS AFRICAN GLEN CASE AND THE PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED EMBASSY VIEW THAT USG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOULD TRANSMIT TO THE GARE A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL USG CLAIMS AT THE SAME TIME, COMMENCEMENT OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE DELAYED A LITTLE LONGER. BECAUSE OF CONTINUING CONSIDERATION OF SS AFRICAN GLEN CASE, DEPARTMENT IS NOT IN A POSITION TO PRESENT A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL USG OFFICIAL CLAIMS AT THIS TIME, AND BEFORE THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE AGREEMENT ON PRIVATE CLAIMS OF US NATIONALS. THE NECES-

SARY EXCHANGE OF NOTES PROVIDING FOR ITS ENTRY
INTO FORCE HAS NOT YET TAKEN PLACE. AS SOON AS IT ENTERS
INTO FORCE, DEPARTMENT SHALL REQUEST EMBASSY TO MAKE
INQUIRIES ON FACTS CONCERNING AFRICAN GLEN, AND HOPES
THAT, SOON THEREAFTER, DEPARTMENT CAN SUPPLY INSTRUCTIONS

ON COMMENCING NEGOTIATIONS ON OUTSTANDING CLAIMS.

5. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEWS AND
COMMENTS REGARDING FOREGOING. DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED AND
READY TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY IT CAN ON ANY SPECIFIC ISSUE
OR IN ANY MANNER THAT EMBASSY MAY REQUEST. KISSINGER

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